

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Rule 53(b) Continuation of )  
Application No. 09/986,064 )  
Inventors: Paul GILSON et al. ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Application No.: Unassigned ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: October 22, 2003 )  
For: EMBOLIC PROTECTION DEVICE )

**Mail Stop Patent Application**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this Amendment.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins at page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** are included in the attached replacement drawing sheets. The amendments are discussed on page 4 of this Amendment.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.

Attachments to this amendment include:

21 pages of substitute drawing sheets, which include formal Figs. 1-35(d) and  
Abstract (1 page).

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